

THE RAP SHEET

Information from the Criminal Records Division

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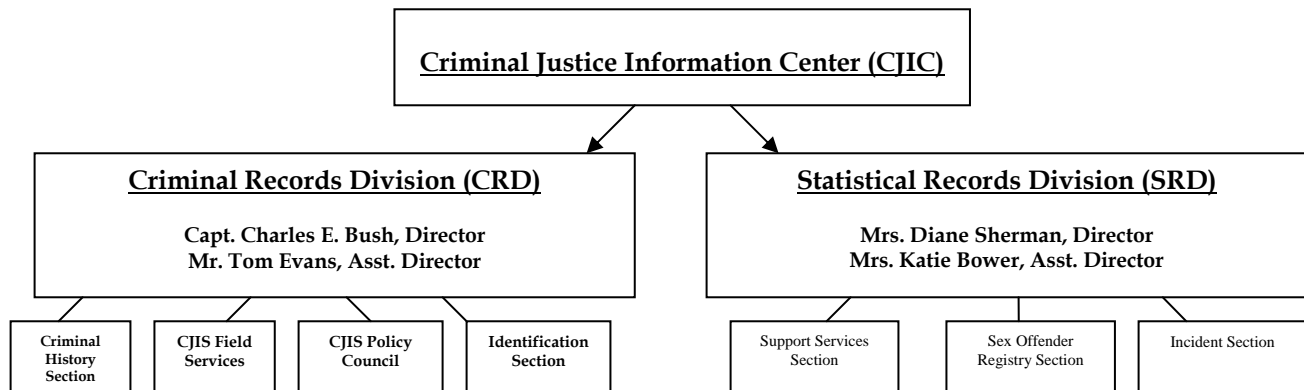


Capt. Charles E. Bush, Commander
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Welcome!

Welcome to the first issue of THE RAP SHEET, the newsletter of the Criminal Records Division of the Michigan State Police. The focus and intent of this division and this newsletter are to provide timely and accurate information to enhance criminal justice and public safety.

Included in the department's March reorganization, the Criminal Justice Information Center (CJIC) was divided into two separate divisions.



Moving – Scheduled to begin in October 2007, the entire Center-both the CRD and SRD-will be temporarily moving from our home of 30 years. Both divisions and their operations will move to the Hollister Building in downtown Lansing. This move is due to renovation efforts that the Department of Management and Budget (DMB) is performing on our current home in the General Office Building. We anticipate that the upgrades to the CJIC portion will take approximately 100 days, with our projected return in February 2008. We are taking the necessary steps to ensure a minimum of interruption to our customers. We will continue to provide the exceptional customer service you have come to expect.

The Criminal History Records System Improvement Process

The mission of the Michigan State Police (MSP) is to protect public safety while respecting the rights and dignity of all persons. The men and women of the Criminal Justice Information Center are in a position to leverage technology to improve criminal justice and public safety. In order to maximize the use of technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness, the Criminal History Record (CHR) system was the first major application to be addressed.

Project Goals:

- Remove the legacy application from the mainframe, and move to a server based application
- Modernize database platform, and move from flat file to relational database structure
- Improve efficiency of data entry
- Reduce the steps required to enter data into the system
- Provide for more edit checks on data submitted to the system
- Provide enhanced ability to support automated transaction submission from end users
- Provide cost savings by removing the application from the mainframe to lower cost server hosting

Project Timeline:

- Late in 2000, a team began developing system requirements
- February 20, 2002, a contract was finalized to redesign the system
- Summer/Fall 2002, MSP and Department of Information Technology (DIT) finalized the new infrastructure concepts
- Winter 2003, the application coding began
- Summer 2004, the alpha testing on the system (version 1) began
- The vendor and MSP utilized a strict project management methodology
- Approximately 525 change requests were written to clarify the specifications due to law changes and application security standards
- The Automated Law Enforcement Information Access System (ALIAS) went on-line November 16, 2005

- CHR enhancements phase II project was completed in February 2007
- CHR's submitted the feasibility document (fiscal year 2008) for future enhancements to meet state and federal mandates

System Benefits:

- Complete overhaul of the mainframe based CHR system and replaced aging technology that was difficult to modify
- The first large MSP application to be migrated off of the mainframe
- Replaced Computerized Criminal History and Search Network programs
- Enhanced MSP's ability to process transactions by a 200% reduction in average processing time
- Allows more automatic error trapping, and probability matching of electronic records
- Allows standard tools to be used for specialized queries
- Allows for a means of storing applicant fingerprint records for the first time
- Rapback system (post arrest notification to agency that submitted applicant fingerprints)
- Streamlined process for modification of data
- Increased throughput
- Greater control of user access through role based security

Technical Specifications:

- Application is totally integrated into MSP/DIT future architecture plan
- Client server replaces mainframe
- Resides behind the MICJIN portal
- Uses MQ queuing for message delivery
- Application is web based for user access behind the portal
- Oracle database/Crystal reports

Future Enhancements:

- Plans are to continue system enhancement to take advantage of emerging technology
- Identify a long term funding source to support ongoing application support and development
- Seek funding to perform rapsheet conversion to XML format
- Develop enhanced reporting functions for quality assurance and quality control for data providers

Criminal History Automation

All CHR information, fingerprints, arrest, charge, and disposition information should now be reported electronically. Thanks to the efforts of all Michigan law enforcement agencies, prosecuting attorney offices, and courts, we have been extremely successful in automating the process. At this time, 95% of arrest fingerprints are being submitted electronically, 95% of prosecuting attorney offices and 93% of the courts are now fully automated. Also, 92% of applicant fingerprints are submitted electronically. This automation provides more complete, accurate, and timely CHR information. This is a benefit to the criminal justice community and to the public who rely on the CHR information when performing background checks. Another benefit of automation is cost savings. These savings include a reduction in postage and supplies (see Printing Fingerprint Cards.) The CRD's staff extends their thanks to all Michigan criminal justice agencies for participating in this worthwhile initiative. Questions regarding the automation of CHR reporting may be directed to Mr. Tim Bolles, manager of the Criminal History Section at (517) 322-5529, or bollestd@michigan.gov

Printing Fingerprint Cards

Michigan law enforcement and the criminal justice community have succeeded in becoming automated. Live Scan access is available to police officers in all 83 counties. A majority of prosecutor and court offices are reporting electronically. With a rate of 95% of fingerprints being sent to MSP via Live Scan, the need for the criminal fingerprint card (RI-7) should be rare. Due to budgetary constraints and the benefits inherent with Live Scan, use of the RI-7 is discouraged. This article identifies the steps needed to reduce its use.

Prior to automation, the RI-7 was used for arrests, prosecutor charges, and court disposition. Once these entities are reporting electronically, the RI-7 will no longer be needed. Alternate means of sharing data within local jurisdictions and counties should be achieved in the near future. The best evidence that prints have been taken and forwarded to MSP is the CHR. A copy of or access to the CHR replaces the need for the RI-7.

The preprinted RI-7 should only be used for manual reporting to MSP. Manual reporting should occur when:

- The Live Scan device is not operating and the ink process is necessary
- Unique situations occur where access to a Live Scan device is not available
- Problem transactions from Live Scan, where it is identified that a RI-7 must be mailed to MSP. These cases are usually identified by the MSP Identification Section staff

Although we realize that some agencies still use the RI-7, we recommend an alternative means be used. Suggested alternatives include:

- Other existing forms that already flow between your agencies
- Access to the Criminal History Record
- Plain paper version of the card
- Blank fingerprint card stock



Some Live Scan vendors are already printing the necessary card formats on blank card stock. This allows for any card to be printed (state, FBI, criminal, or applicant) without changing printer stock.

Blank card stock can be obtained at no cost through the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) at:
http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/forms/card_requisition_form.pdf?g=eee

We thank you for your work and assistance with the automation process. If you have any questions contact Mr. Scott Blanchard, Identification Section Manager, AFIS/Live Scan Automated Reporting, at (517) 322-5173 or Blanchas@michigan.gov

CJIS Field Services Update

CJIS Field Services currently has several projects and initiatives ongoing. The most immediate ones concern the Next Generation LEIN (NGL) project and follow up on the recently completed FBI CJIS audit.

The NGL project is an initiative to move the current Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) from the Unisys mainframe to a server based architecture. This will provide greater functionality and robustness, a more economically efficient system, and less chance of a single point of failure. The lynchpin of the NGL is the Computer Projects of Illinois (CPI) Message Switch.

The project is in the testing phase. Phase one tested National Crime Information Center (NCIC), National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), and LEIN message keys in the MSP portal environment. This phase has been successfully completed.

Phase two involves testing NCIC, NLETS, and LEIN message keys by non-MSP portal users. This phase is ongoing. Phase three will be the testing of NCIC, NLETS, and LEIN message keys by interface agencies.

The FBI CJIS Audit Unit conducted its triennial state audit from June 24-30, 2007. These agencies were scheduled for audit: the Michigan State Police, Macomb County Sheriff Department, Kent County Sheriff Department, Genesee County Sheriff Department, Jackson County Sheriff Department, Grand Traverse County Sheriff Department, Montmorency County Sheriff Department, Charlevoix County Sheriff Department, Eighth District Court North in Kalamazoo, the Inkster Police Department, Southfield Police Department, Flint Police Department, Pontiac Police Department, and Detroit Police Department.

FBI CJIS Policy Change - Name Checks for Double Amputees

June 1, 2007, the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council amended their policy for name checks of double amputees as follows:

- 1) Requests for double amputee name checks are now forwarded to the FBI CJIS Division's Identification and Investigative Services (IISS) name check group via fax at (304) 625-5102.
- 2) A request will consist of a completed RI-7 with the applicable state statute authorizing the background check and all fingerprint blocks noted "AMP" or "All AMP" (or similar notation indicating double amputee). Medical documentation is not required. A cover page with a point of contact and telephone number must be included.
- 3) The IISS will respond with a "negative" results letter or associated rap sheet(s).
- 4) Response time (from the date of receipt) is 24-hours, or next business day.

This revised policy change is for double amputees only. The FBI can neither confirm nor deny positive identification based on a name check only.

Questions may be directed to the MSP CHR Team at (517) 322-1956.

Corrections to Criminal History Record

Correction requests must include the subject's name, date of birth, TCN or CTN number, and the information to be corrected. Email the request to CJICCHRCORR@michigan.gov or fax at (517) 322-6288.

Criminal Records Division Help

Applicant Background Check (517) 322-1956
Computerized Criminal History (517) 322-1956
Fingerprints (517) 322-1956

How can we help? If you have ideas for future articles, please contact Ms. Marcy Best at (517) 322-1665 or Bestm@Michigan.gov